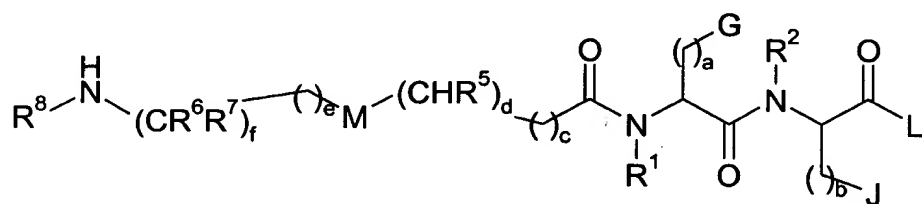


What is claimed is:

1. A compound of formula I

5



formula I

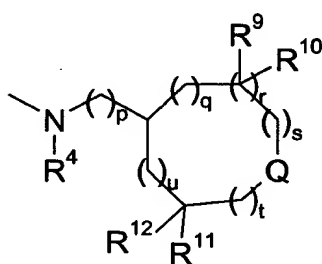
10 wherein

R¹ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆-alkyl;

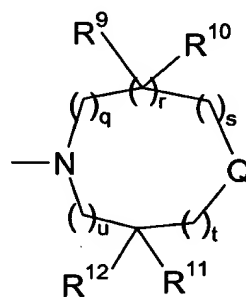
R² is hydrogen or C₁₋₆-alkyl;

15

L is



or



wherein R⁴ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl;

20

p is 0 or 1;

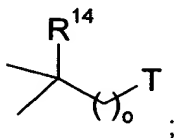
q, s, t, u are independently from each other 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

r is 0 or 1;

the sum $q + r + s + t + u$ is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

- 5 R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , and R^{12} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

Q is $>N-R^{13}$ or



- 10 wherein o is 0, 1 or 2;

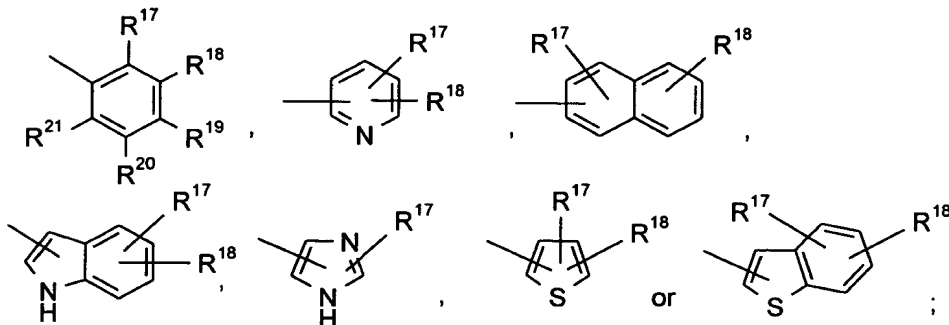
T is $-N(R^{15})(R^{16})$ or hydroxyl;

R^{13} , R^{15} , and R^{16} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

15

R^{14} is hydrogen, aryl or hetaryl;

G is $-O-(CH_2)_k-R^{17}$,

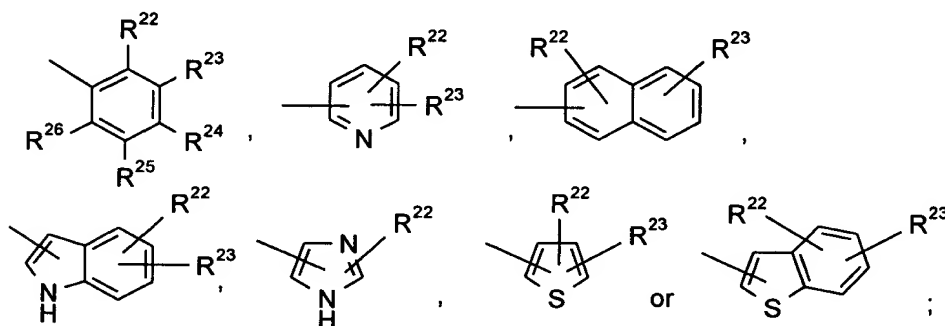


20

wherein R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} and R^{21} independently from each other are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-6} -alkyl or C_{1-6} -alkoxy;

k is 0, 1 or 2;

J is $-O-(CH_2)_l-R^{22}$,



- 5 wherein R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} and R^{26} independently from each other are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-6} -alkyl or C_{1-6} -alkoxy;

I is 0, 1 or 2;

a is 0, 1, or 2;

b is 0, 1, or 2;

c is 0, 1, or 2;

d is 0 or 1;

e is 0, 1, 2, or 3;

f is 0 or 1;

R^5 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxyl, aryl or hetaryl;

R^6 and R^7 are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more halogen, amino, hydroxyl, aryl, or hetaryl;

R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more halogen, amino, hydroxyl, aryl, or hetaryl;

R^6 and R^7 or R^6 and R^8 or R^7 and R^8 may optionally form $-(CH_2)_i-U-(CH_2)_j-$, wherein i and j independently from each other are 1, 2 or 3 and U is $-O-$, $-S-$, or a valence bond;

5 M is arylene, hetarylene, $-O-$, $-S-$ or $-CR^{27}=CR^{28}-$;

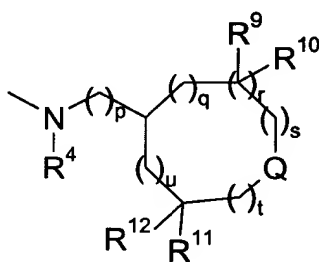
R^{27} and R^{28} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more aryl or hetaryl;

10 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 is C_{1-6} -alkyl.

3. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^2 is C_{1-6} -alkyl.

4. The compound of claim 1 wherein L is



20 wherein R^4 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

p is 0 or 1;

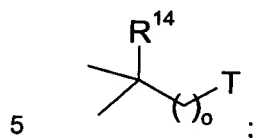
q, s, t, u are independently from each other 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

25 r is 0 or 1;

the sum $q + r + s + t + u$ is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , and R^{12} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

Q is $>N-R^{13}$ or



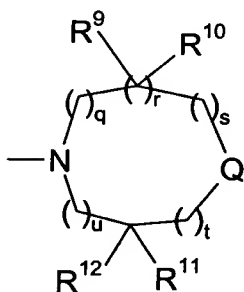
wherein o is 0, 1 or 2;

T is $-N(R^{15})(R^{16})$ or hydroxyl;

10 R^{13} , R^{15} , and R^{16} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; and

R^{14} is hydrogen, aryl or hetaryl.

15 5. The compound of claim 1 wherein L is



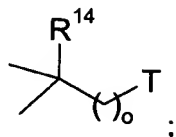
20 wherein q, s, t, u are independently from each other 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

r is 0 or 1;

the sum $q + r + s + t + u$ is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

25 R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , and R^{12} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

Q is $>\text{N-R}^{13}$ or



5

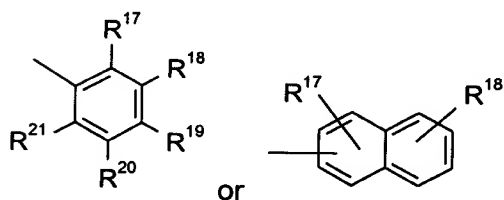
wherein o is 0, 1 or 2;

T is $-\text{N}(\text{R}^{15})(\text{R}^{16})$ or hydroxyl;

10 R^{13} , R^{15} , and R^{16} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; and

R^{14} is hydrogen, aryl or hetaryl.

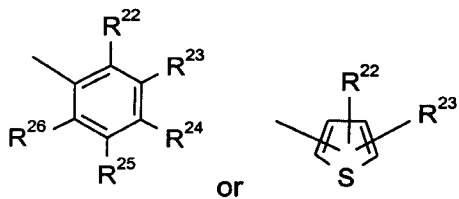
15 6. The compound of claim 1 wherein G is



wherein R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} and R^{21} independently from each other are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-6} -alkyl or C_{1-6} -alkoxy.

20

7. The compound of claim 1 wherein J is



wherein R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} and R^{26} independently are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-6} -alkyl or C_{1-6} -alkoxy.

8. The compound of claim 1 wherein M is arylene or

5 - $CR^{27}=CR^{28}$ -, wherein R^{27} and R^{28} independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl, optionally substituted with aryl or hetaryl.

9. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^6 and R^7 independently from each other are hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl.

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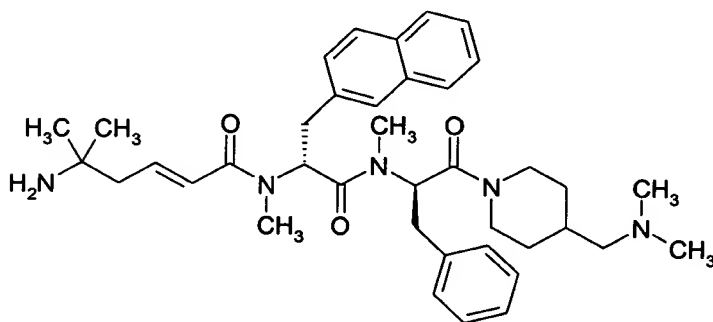
10. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^6 and R^7 form $-(CH_2)_i-U-(CH_2)_j-$, wherein i and j independently from each other are 1, 2 or 3 and U is -O-, -S-, or a valence bond.

11. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl.

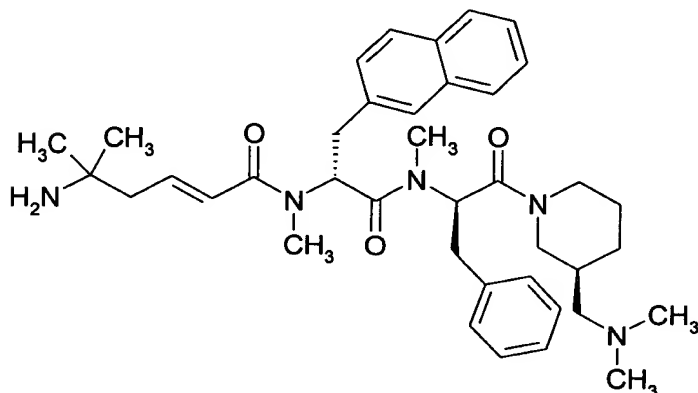
15

12. The compound of claim 1, selected from

(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-
((dimethylamino)methyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-
20 N-methylamide

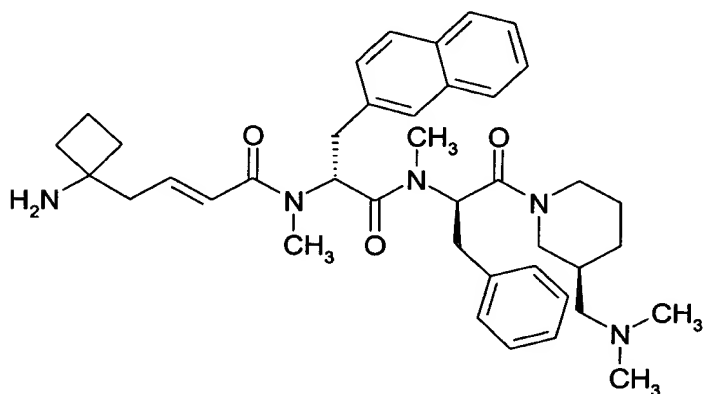


(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-((3S)-3-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



5

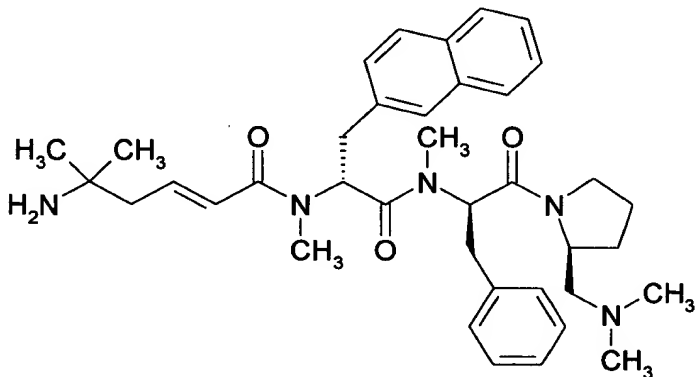
(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-((3S)-3-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



10

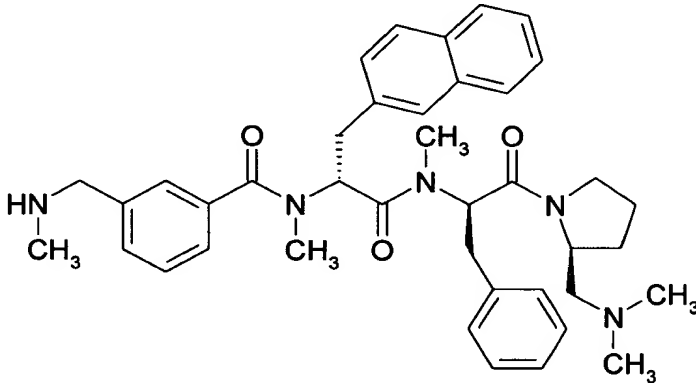
15

(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-((2S)-2-((dimethylamino)methyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



5

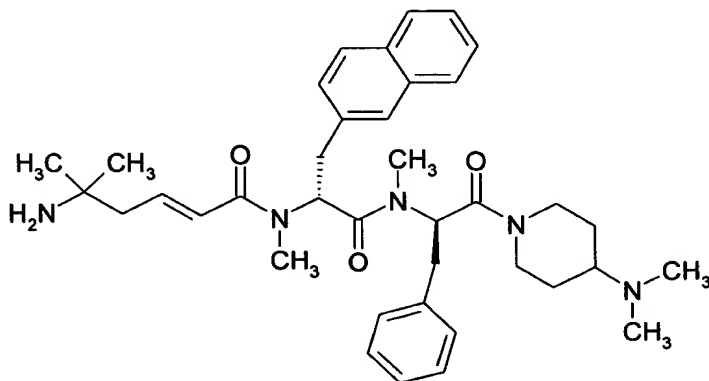
N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-Benzyl-2-((2S)-2-((dimethylamino)methyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methyl-3-((methylamino)methyl)benzamide



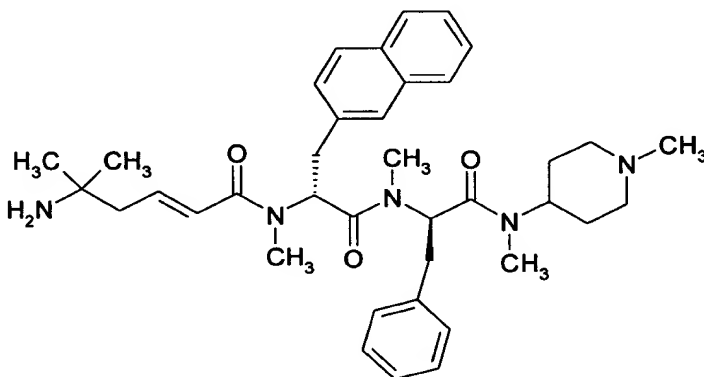
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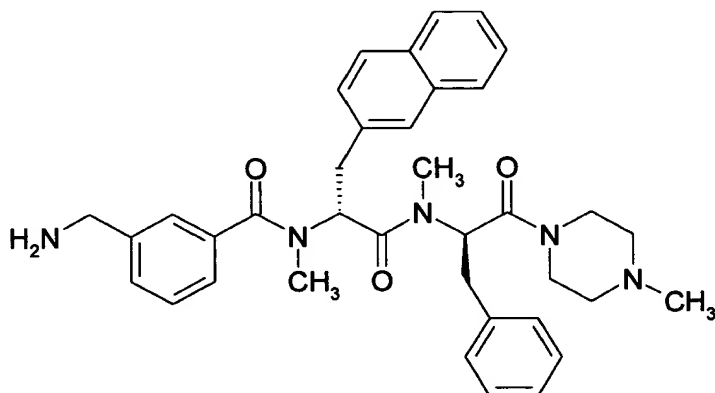
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-(dimethylamino)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide.



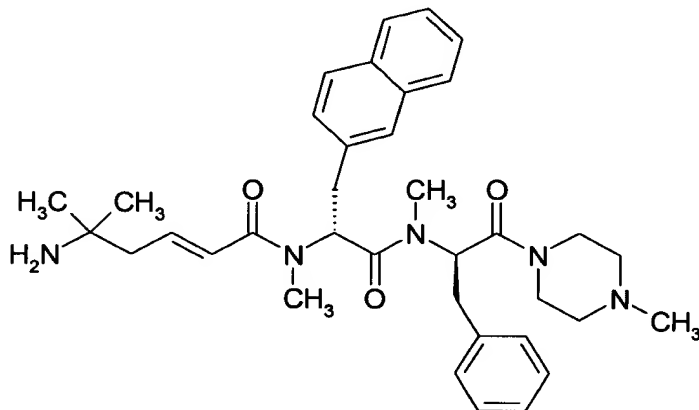
- 5 (2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-methyl-N-[(1R)-1-(N-methyl-N-[(1R)-1-[N-methyl-N-(1-methylpiperidin-4-yl)carbamoyl]-2-phenylethyl]carbamoyl)-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl]amide



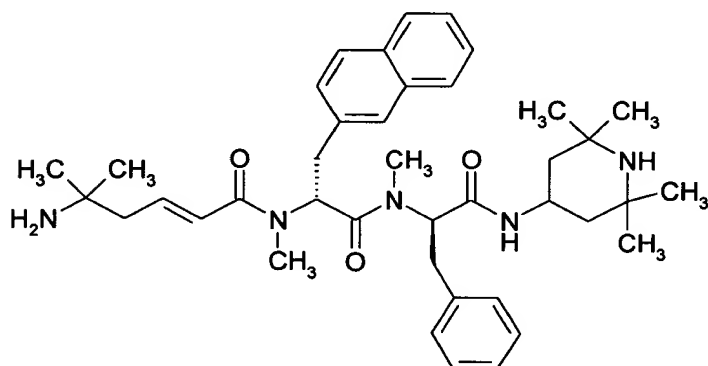
3-Aminomethyl-N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylbenzamide



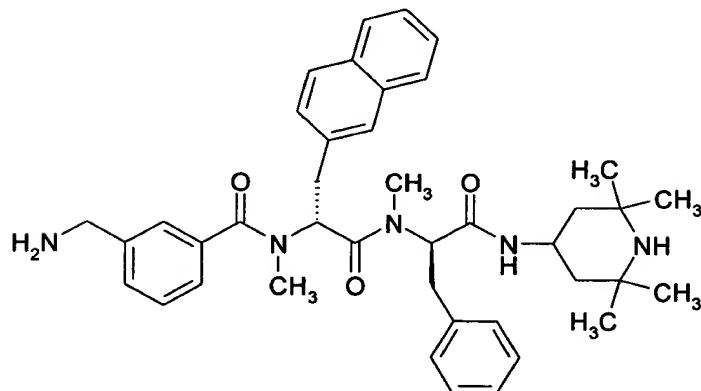
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



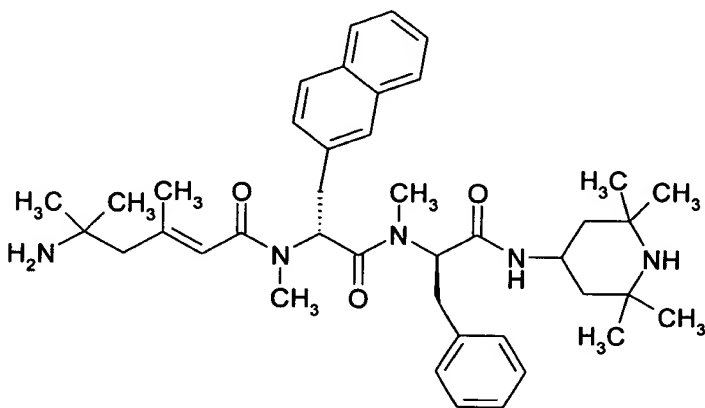
- 5 (2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-methyl-N-((1R)-1-{N-methyl-N-[(1R)-2-phenyl-1-((2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-yl)carbamoyl)ethyl]carbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)amide



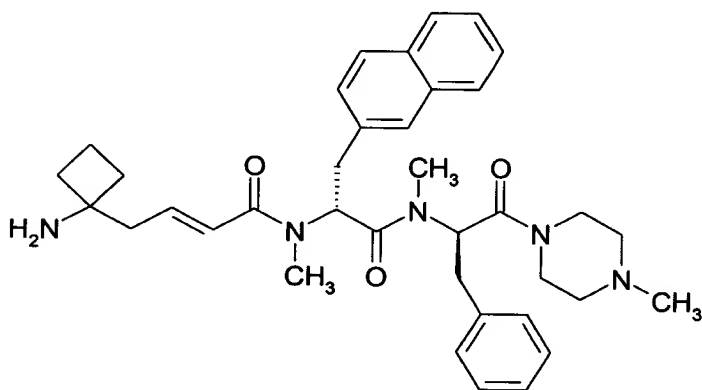
3-Aminomethyl-N-methyl-N-((1R)-1-{N-methyl-N-[(1R)-2-phenyl-1-((2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-yl)carbamoyl)ethyl]carbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)benzamide



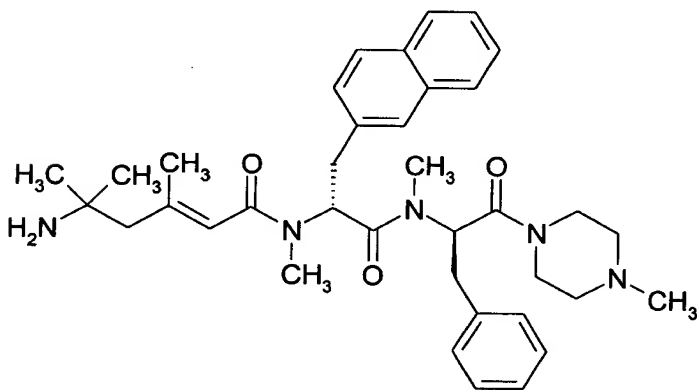
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-methyl-N-((1R)-1-{N-methyl-N-[(1R)-2-phenyl-1-((2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-yl)carbamoyl)ethyl]carbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)amide



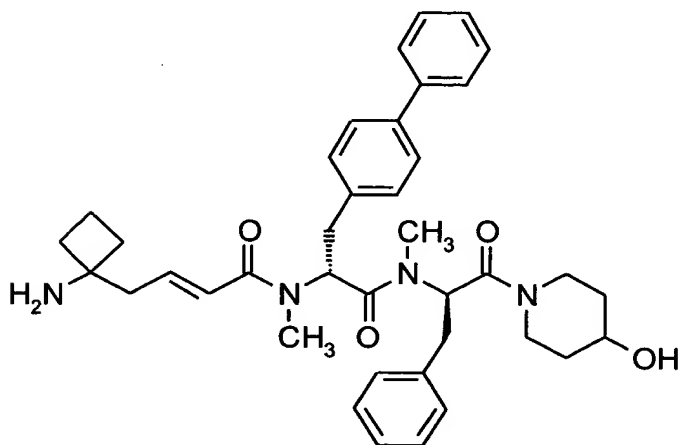
(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide

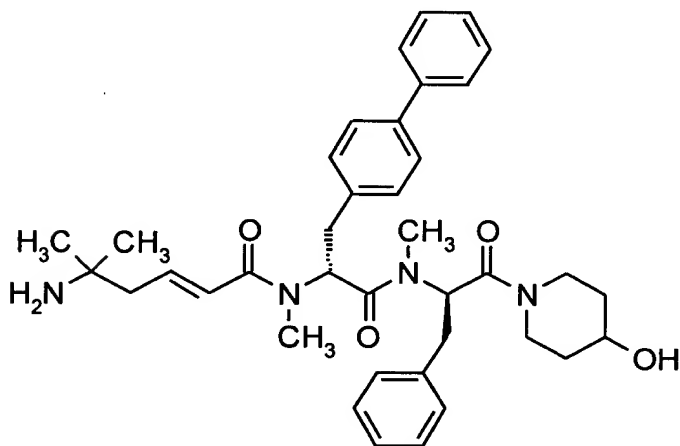


(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



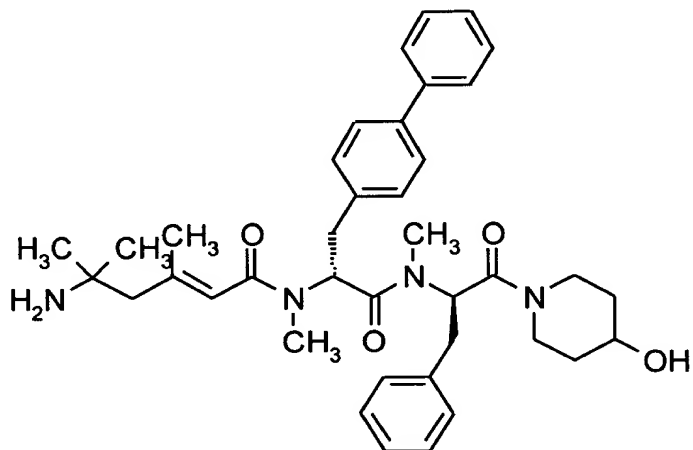
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(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



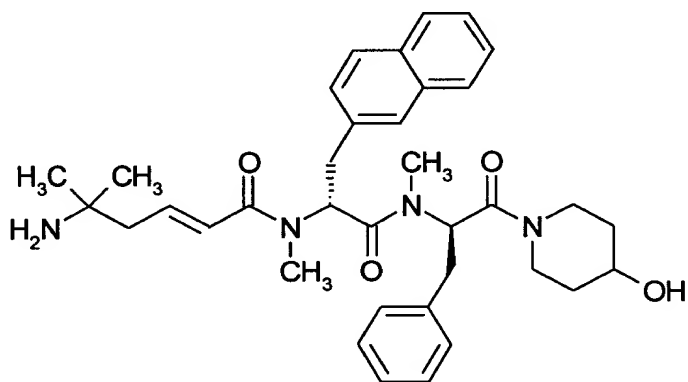
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(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



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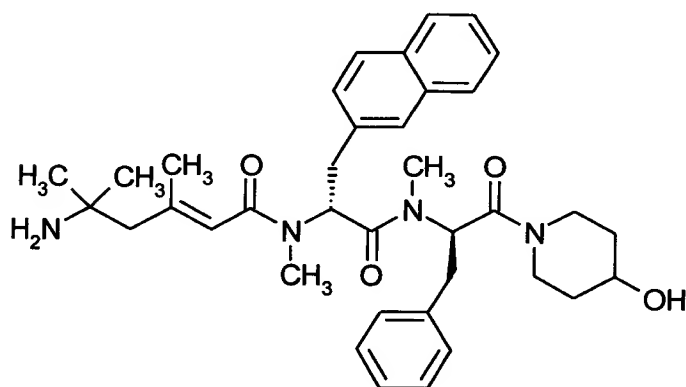
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



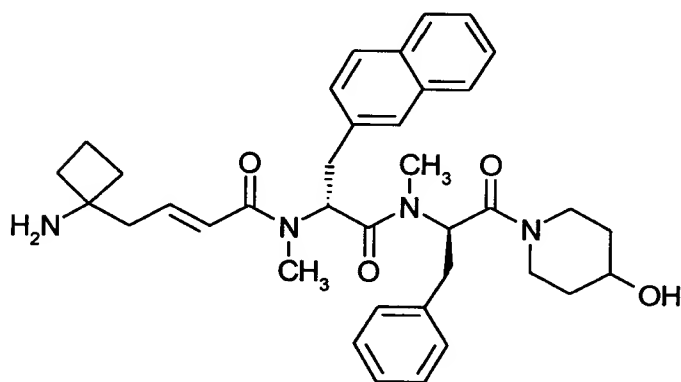
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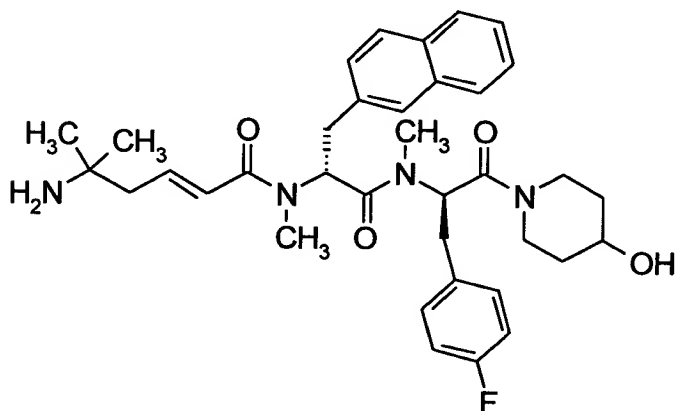
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



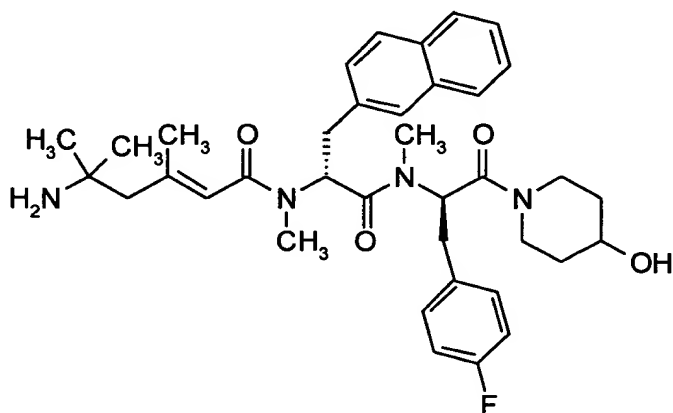
5 (2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



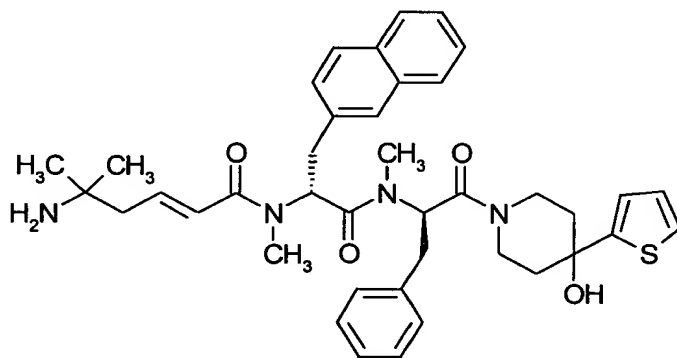
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



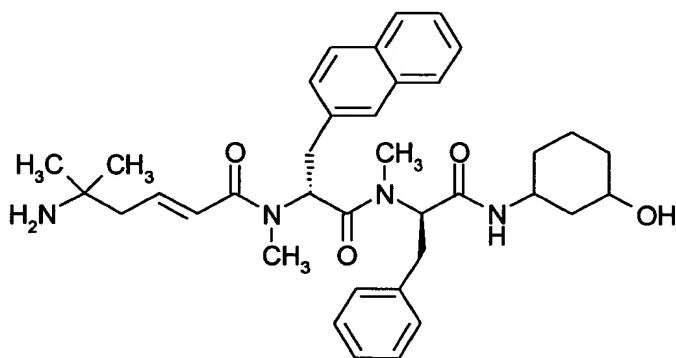
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



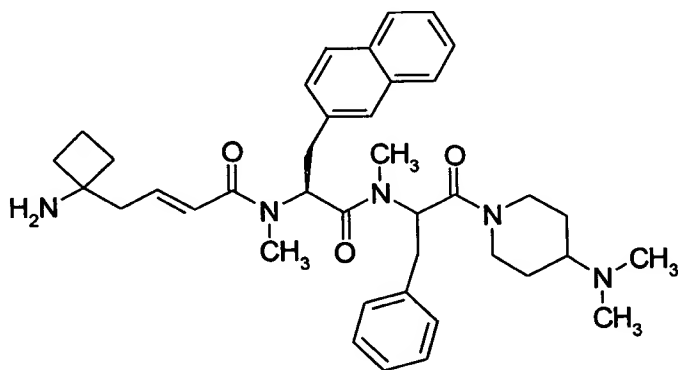
5 (2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxy-4-(2-thienyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-(3-hydroxycyclohexylcarbamoyl)-2-phenylethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide

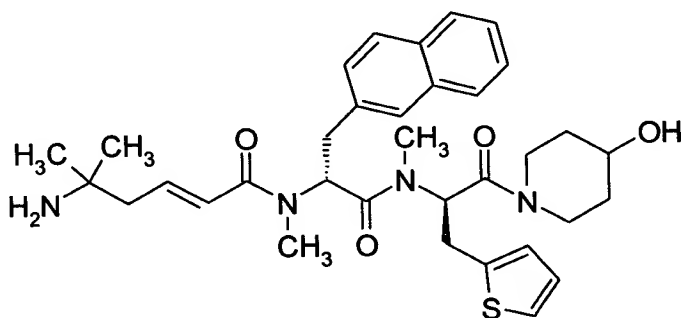


(2E)4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-(dimethylamino)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



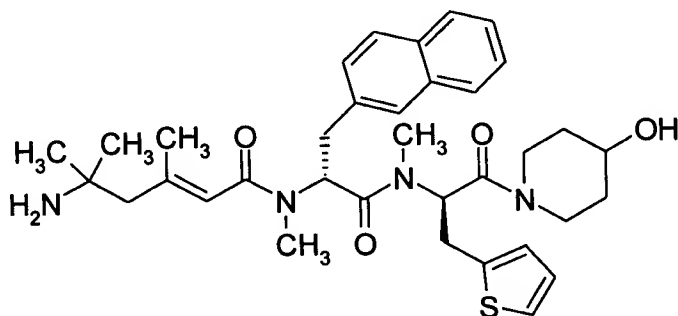
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(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(2R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide

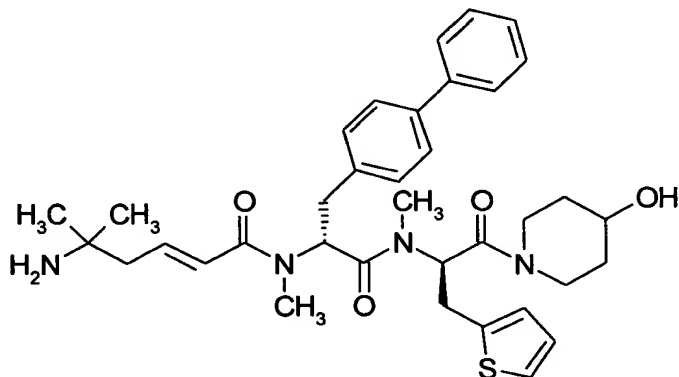


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(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(2R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide

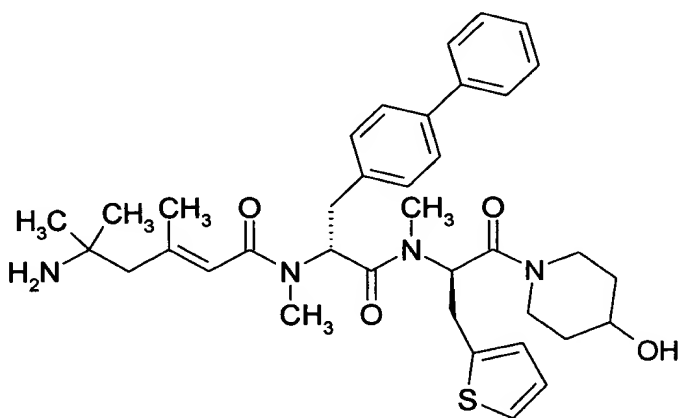


(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)-1-{N-[(2R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}ethyl)-N-methylamide



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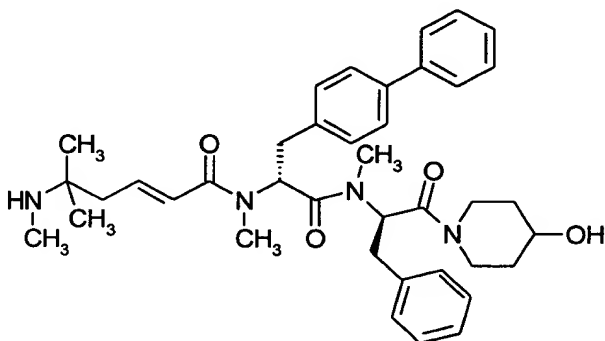
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)-1-{N-[(1R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}ethyl)-N-methylamide



10

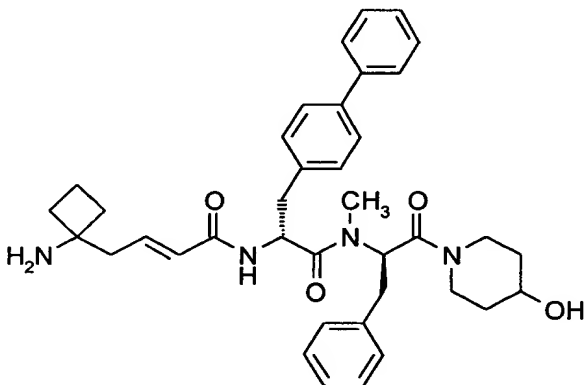
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(2E)-5-Methyl-5-(methylamino)hex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



5

(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid ((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)amide



10 and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

13. A method of treating growth retardation in connection with asthma, the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

15 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the compound is a growth hormone secretagogue.

15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising, as an active ingredient, an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

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B1

16. A method of stimulating the release of growth hormone from the pituitary of a mammal, the method comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or a composition of claim 15 ✓

5

17. A method of treating growth retardation in connection with juvenile rheumatic arthritis or cystic fibrosis, the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

10 18. The method of claim 14 wherein the growth hormone secretagogue is selected from growth hormone releasing peptides, growth hormone releasing peptidomimetics, and growth hormone releasing compounds of a nonpeptidyl nature.

[illegible]